

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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GOVERNMENT REFORM COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES HEARING ON MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL AND USE OF STEROIDS

Washington, D.C. -- Today Chairman Tom Davis (R-VA) and Ranking Minority Member Henry A. Waxman (D-CA) announced a hearing on Major League Baseball's recently negotiated steroids policy. The hearing will focus on how the testing policy will be implemented, and how it will effectively address the use of prohibited steroids by players.

"Some have asked why a congressional hearing is a good idea, why it's necessary," said Rep. Davis. "First, there's a cloud over baseball, and perhaps a public discussion of the issues, with witnesses testifying under oath, can provide a glimpse of sunlight. Second, I'm extremely concerned about the message being sent to children. We have a responsibility to help educate all Americans -- but especially young people who admire and emulate their heroes -- about the very real health risks associated with steroid use. We can help kids understand that steroids aren't cool."

"Steroid use in America is a significant problem," said Rep. Waxman. "I believe this hearing will help us learn more about how pervasive it is, the steps Major League Baseball has taken to bring it under control, and any additional steps that may be necessary."

When: Thursday, March 17, at 10:00 a.m.

Where: 2154 Rayburn House Office Building

Invited Witnesses:

Panel I:

Jose Canseco - former Oakland Athletic and Texas Ranger
Jason Giambi - current New York Yankee and former Oakland Athletic
Mark McGwire - former Oakland Athletic and St. Louis Cardinal
Rafael Palmeiro - current Baltimore Oriole and former Texas Ranger
Curt Schilling - current Boston Red Sox
Sammy Sosa - current Baltimore Oriole and former Chicago Cub
Frank Thomas - current Chicago White Sox

Panel II

Bud Selig - Commissioner of Baseball - Major League Baseball
Sandy Alderson -- former General Manager, Oakland Athletics, and
current Executive Vice President of Baseball Operations, Major League Baseball
Don Fehr, Esq. - Executive Director & General Counsel, Major League Baseball
Players Association

Kevin Towers - General Manager & Executive Vice President, San Diego Padres